

BRIDGE+ conference

Skills for the future: regional initiatives now!

Online event

9 June 2021

9:30-11:30 (CEST)

How can regional actors create innovative strategies for skills policies that work for people, companies and regions?

There is a high demand for more flexible and higher-level skills of individuals. The COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis have accelerated this trend and brought new challenges to the education sector and the labour market, as well as made evident the urgent need for a green and digital transition. Regional policies need to react to these changes and provide high quality solutions in the field of education, training and career guidance. Innovative policy approaches are needed to help bridge the gap and contribute to a more dynamic and sustainable European education, training and labour market. The [BRIDGE+ project](#) has devoted efforts to initiate future skills initiatives including the involvement of the education and career guidance sectors. Among other things, digitalisation processes have been fostered with a strong support of regional and local authorities and all stakeholders involved in territorial skills strategies.

This conference will gather key experts from the European level and from European regions, providing insights into the ongoing revision of the European Adult Education Agenda, a priority-to-be for the upcoming Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU, and skills policies. [BRIDGE+ results](#) are a base for discussion, looking into a digital future of education and career guidance.

Useful information

- Date: 9 June 2021
- Time: 9:30 – 11:30 h (CET)
- Target: regional and local authorities (public officers, decision makers), EU institutions and agencies, international organisations, Vocational training and adult education centres, career guidance professionals, researchers, companies, trade unions, and civil society organisations.
- Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bridge-conference-registration-153769604025>

Join the conversation!

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Agenda

9:30-9:35 Welcome and technical aspects

9:35-10:20 Keynote introductions on skills policies and lifelong guidance

9:35-9:45 EU skills policies and lifelong guidance:
current needs and future developments

- **Koen Nomden**, Team Leader for Transparency and Recognition of Skills and Qualifications, European Commission, DG EMPL

9:45-9:55 Effective Active Support to Employment following the COVID-19 crisis

- **Anita Halasz**, European Commission, DG EMPL

9:55-10:05 The regional perspective

- **Christiane Spies**, Centre for School Quality and Teacher Training, Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Culture, Education and Sport (Germany)

10:05-10:15 The role of companies

- **Dr. Markus Tomaschitz**, Vice President of Human Resources at AVL (Austria)

10:15-10:20 BRIDGE+ video experience

10:20-10:30 Presentation of BRIDGE+ results

- **Andrea Bernert-Bürkle**, BRIDGE+ project coordinator, vhs Baden-Württemberg (Germany)

10:30-11:20 Panel discussion

- **Dr. Tobias Diemer**, Director, Volkshochschulverband Baden-Württemberg e.V. (Germany)
- **Dr. Peter Härtel**, Content & Development, Steirische Volkswirtschaftliche Gesellschaft (Austria)
- **Bitor Arias**, International Project Manager, TKNIKA, Basque VET Applied Research Centre (Basque Country, Spain)
- **Johan Nordberg**, Validation and Certification CNC Technology, SKTC (Sweden)
- **Kees Schuur**, Board member, Foundation European Center for Valuation of Prior Learning (Netherlands)
- **Magnus O. Andersson**, Director, Lärcentrum Östersund (Sweden)

11:20-11:30 Concluding remarks: European vision of knowledge, education and research for a green and digital future. The Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

- **Jasmina Poličnik**, coordinator of PSEU, Slovenian Ministry for Education, Science and Sport

Moderator: **Dr. Michaela Marterer**, Manager, Steirische Volkswirtschaftliche Gesellschaft.